

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OIC-02 HA-05 IO-13 CU-04 BIB-01 ACDA-12
/096 W

-----021774 011932Z /43

R 011645Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2447
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMCONSUL ZURICH

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USEEC

BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT PARIS DATED 28 NOV 1977 FROM
STRASBOURG RPTD FOR YOUR ACTION:

QUOTE:

C O N F I D E N T I A L STRASBOURG 0250

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: COE, PORG, SHUM, SP

SUBJECT: COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

MEETING, NOVEMBER 24, 1977

1. SUMMARY: HIGHLIGHT OF THE WELL-ATTENDED MEETING WAS FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF SPAIN AS 20TH COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER. IN DISCUSSING CSCE, MINISTERS AGREED ON IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY HELSINKI FINAL ACT. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FORLANI OF ITALY DECLARED COUNCIL'S "SATISFACTION" OVER SADAT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL. BRITISH AND SPANISH HELD "EXPLORATORY CONVERSATIONS" ON GIBRALTAR, WITH GIBRALTAR DELEGATION PRESENT. SEVERAL HUMAN RIGHTS RELATED MATTERS, INCLUDING TORTURE, WERE DISCUSSED. GREEK AND TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTERS APPARENTLY HAD NO PRIVATE SUBSTANTIVE MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER ATTENDANCE AT REGULAR SIX-MONTHLY MEETING WAS AMONG HIGHEST IN RECENT YEARS, AND THIS SEEMS TO HAVE SET POSITIVE TONE FOR WIDE-RANGING DISCUSSIONS (WITH MANY OF THE USUAL PLATITUDES) CHAIRED BY ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FORLANI. THE ONLY MAJOR FORMINS CONFIDENTIAL

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MISSING WERE GENSCHER (SICK, DE GUIRINGAUD, AND SIMONET (SICK).

OTHE DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

3. SPAIN - FOREIGN MINISTER OREJA DEPOSITED INSTRUMENTS OF COUNCIL ACCESSION AND SIGNED THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, NOTING THAT THIS REPRESENTED THE CULMINATION OF THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE SPANISH PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN THE FAMILY OF DEMOCRATIC EUROPEAN NATIONS.

4. GIBRALTAR - WITH A REPRESENTATIVE GIBRALTAR GROUP PRESENT, OREJA AND BRITISH FOREIGN MINISTER OWEN HELD "EXPLORATORY CONVERSATIONS" ON THE FUTURE OF GIBRALTAR AT THE COUNCIL BUILDING. SOURCES HERE SAY THE TALKS DID NOT GET VERY FAR, BUT ANOTHER MEETING WILL BE HELD SOON, POSSIBLY AS EARLY AS JANUARY.

5. CSCE - THIS MAJOR AGENDA ITEM WAS DISCUSSED AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF A GENERAL FEELING AMONG THE MINISTERS, AS SEVERAL AMBASSADORS TOLD ME, THAT THINGS WERE PROCEEDING RELATIVELY SATISFACTORILY AT BELGRADE. THE

MINISTERS' COMMUNIQUE STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE MOMENTUM GENERATED BY THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT, AND CONTINUED, REGULAR EXCHANGES OF VIEWS ON CSCE AT THE COUNCIL WERE ENDORSED. ACCORDING TO SECRETARY-GENERAL KAHN-ACKERMANN, SUCH A MEETING WILL BE HELD HERE DURING THE FIRST HALF OF JANUARY, WITH "EXPERTS" AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM BELGRADE DELEGATIONS PRESENT. FOR THE APRIL MEETING THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE USG WILL BE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS CSCE INFORMALLY WITH SUCH A GROUP. THE INITIAL SIGNAL TO US MIGHT COME FROM LUXEMBOURG, SINCE FORMIN THORN

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USEEC; BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

TAKES OVER FROM FORLANI FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1978 AS
COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS CHAIRMAN.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS - A SURPRISE ITEM FOR DISCUSSION WAS THE
PROPOSAL BY BELGIUM FOR A JOINT STUDY OF EUROPEAN
ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN
RIGHTS AS A FACTOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. THE
BELGIANS ARE EXPECTED TO PUSH SOON FOR FURTHER CONSIDER-
ATION BY THE COUNCIL, AND HERE AGAIN THERE IS A
POSSIBILITY OF US ATTENDANCE BEING REQUESTED AT SOME POINT.

ON THE SPECIFIC ISSUE OF TORTURE, THE MINISTERS VOICED
"GRAVE CONCERN" AND ENDORSED WHOLEHEARTED COUNCIL
PARTICIPATION IN AN INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE
TORTURE FROM CONTEMPORARY LIFE. (BASED ON DEP. ASST.
SECRETARY SCHNEIDER'S OCTOBER VISIT HERE AND HIS EARLY
NOVEMBER TALK WITH COUNCIL OF EUROPE HUMAN RIGHTS
DIVISION DIRECTOR H. GOLSONG, THE SECRETARIAT IS WELL
AWARE OF KEEN USG INTEREST IN THIS SUBJECT. GOLSONG
TOLD ME HE HOPES TO GET THE COUNCIL TO FOCUS ON THE
DRAFT UN CONVENTION ON TORTURE, WITH A COUNCIL DECLARA-
TION PER SE ON TORTURE AT PRESENT A SECONDARY ELEMENT.
HE ASKS WHETHER THE USG - IF INVITED - WOULD WISH TO
SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER AT THE
EXPERTS LEVEL HERE.)

7. SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE - AS FAR AS CAN BE DETERMINED,
THE GREEK AND TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTERS EXCHANGED NO
MORE THAN "PLEASANTRIES" ON THE 24TH, MOST LIKELY
BECAUSE BITSIOS' IMMINENT REPLACEMENT WAS KNOWN. CYPRUS
AND GREECE PROTESTED THE OCTOBER COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS
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(PERMREPS) DECISION ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CYPRUS
(PARIS 31920 (NOTAL)), BUT THEY HAD ALREADY BEEN TOLD
THERE WOULD BE NO DISCUSSION OF THE ISSUE. TO KEEP
THINGS EVEN, SECGEN KAHN-ACKERMANN TELLS ME THE TURKS

HAVE PROTESTED TO HIM OVER PRO-GREEK ATTITUDES AT THE SECRETARIAT.

8. EUROPEAN INTEGRATION - WITH EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS PARTICIPATING, THE MINISTERS REVIEWED THE GENERAL PROGRESS OF EUROPEAN COOPERATION, TO WHICH THEY GAVE A PRO-FORMA ENDORSEMENT. ATTENDANCE BY THE EC PRESIDENT AND EFTA CHAIRMAN IS TO BE A REGULAR FEATURE OF THE SEMI-ANNUAL COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS MEETINGS. NOTE WAS MADE OF THE RECENT ACCESSION OF THE EC ON BEHALF OF ITS INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS - FOR THE FIRST TIME - TO A COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION EXCHANGE OF TISSUE-TYPING REAGENTS).

9. UNGA - ON THIS MAJOR AGENDA ITEM, THE MINISTERS ENDORSED IN A SOMEWHAT ROUTINE MANNER ENHANCED PREPARATORY DISCUSSION AT THE COUNCIL OF UN ISSUES AND STRESSED THE NEED FOR ADDED COOPERATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND RELATED ISSUES AT UNGA. UN AFFAIRS EXPERTS WILL GATHER HERE AGAIN IN LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY.

10. LIECHTENSTEIN - THE COMMITTEE MORE OR LESS ENDORSED FULL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP FOR LIECHTENSTEIN, BUT IT IS CLEAR THE MODALITIES WILL REQUIRE LENGTHY STUDY. LIECHTENSTEIN HAS IMPRESSED MOST OF THOSE FORMERLY OPPOSED TO FULL MEMBERSHIP AS BEING READY, WILLING AND ABLE TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN COUNCIL'S AFFAIRS.

11. THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS WILL MEET IN 1978 ON APRIL 27 AND NOVEMBER 23. SEC GEN KAHN-ACKERMANN TOLD ME HE WILL MEET WITH INCOMING CHAIRMAN THORN IN JANUARY, TO TRY TO ACHIEVE A MORE FORCEFUL PERFORMANCE BY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CHAIRMAN, CITING WHAT HE TERMED FORLANI'S PRE-OCCUPATION WITH ACHIEVING CONSENSUS. KAHN-ACKERMANN SAID THIS PREVENTED MORE DECISION-MAKING, ESPECIALLY ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES, WHERE THE MINISTERS ARE INCLINED TO GIVE THEIR PERMREPS AND THE SECRETARIAT A FREER HAND. HE LAMENTED THE ABSENCE OF GENSCHER AND SIMONET ON THAT SCORE.

12. TEXT OF MEETING COMMUNIQUE BEING SENT ALL ADDRESSEES BY POUCH. KURZE UNQUOTE
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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SAS ID: 112705
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PORG, SHUM, SP, COE
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